

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USNATO 06200 191733Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 06200

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: NATO, CSCE
SUBJECT: FRENCH OPPOSITION TO WORK AT NATO ON CSCE:
A SMALL STEP FORWARD

REFS: (A) USNATO 4368, (B) USNATO 5261, (C) USNATO 5437,
(D) USNATO 5884

1. ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL DISPUTE WITH THE FRENCH CONCERNING THE PREPARATION OF A NATO REPORT FOR THE WASHINGTON SUMMIT, AND FRENCH PERMREP TINE'S REJECTION AT THE APRIL 27NAC MEETING WITH EXPERTS FROM CAPITALS (REF A) OF A COMPROMISE WHEREBY A CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF THAT MEETING WOULD HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO THE SUMMIT. AN ELEMENT OF THE DEBATE OVER THE QUESTION OF A CHAIRMAN'S REPORT WAS WHETHER THE CHAIRMAN OF A COUNCIL MEETING COULD ISSUE A REPORT ON HIS OWN RESPONSIBILITY WITHOUT A CONSENSUS OF DELEGATIONS. DUE TO FRENCH OPPOSITION TO A REPORT FROM THE CHAIR, SYG LUNS INCLUDED AN EXTENSIVE SECTION ON CSCE IN HIS PERSONAL REPORT TO THE SUMMIT ON THE STATE OF THE ALLIANCE (REF B).

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2. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE HAS TOLD US IN CONFIDENCE THAT LUNS HAD A PRIVATE DISCUSSION WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 USNATO 06200 191733Z

TINE WHEN THE QUESTION OF THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT WAS IN DISPUTE. DURING THIS CONVERSATION TINE RECOGNIZED THE PREROGATIVE OF THE CHAIR TO ISSUE REPORTS ON ITS OWN RESPONSIBILITY AND WITHOUT CONSENSUS, IN RETURN FOR A COMMITMENT BY THE SYG NOT TO RELEASE A CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF THE APRIL 27 MEETING.

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3. ON THIS BASIS, THE POLADS CHAIRMAN DECIDED TO ISSUE A REPORT ON THE JUNE 8 MEETING OF EXPERTS ON THE SCIENTIFIC FORUM, DESPITE FRENCH OPPOSITION (REF D). HE HAS ALSO CIRCULATED A CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF THE EMERGENCY MAY 26 POLADS MEETING CALLED TO DEAL WITH THE FRENCH ATTEMPT TO BLOCK THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE SESSION ON THE SCIENTIFIC FORUM (REF C). (BOTH REPORTS BEING POUCHED TO EUR/RPM). ADDITIONALLY, LUNS HAS INSTRUCTED THE CHAIRMAN TO ROUTINELY EXERCISE HIS PREROGATIVE TO ISSUE REPORTS ON FUTURE SPECIAL POLADS MEETINGS ON CSCE.

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4. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH THE POLADS CHAIRMAN, THE FRENCH HAVE RECOGNIZED TINE'S COMMITMENT TO LUNS, BUT HAVE ARGUED THAT THIS APPLIES ONLY TO REPORTS FROM NAC MEETINGS, NOT OTHER NATO BODIES. THE CHAIRMAN DISMISSES THIS POSITION, AND INTENDS TO FOLLOW HIS INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE SYG. GLITMAN

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